

Today's News - Wednesday, November 19, 2008

- Heathcote on how malls have taken over the world - and how architects could change things to "an architecture suited to a recession."
- Peter Hall minces now words about how critics are missing the point about MAD: "at the very least, Cloepfil turned a dead, frilly box into a working building, and not without panache."
- Jacobs waxes poetic about the happy ending to the Columbus Circle saga.
- Russell gives thumbs-up to Gehry's AGO, ears and all.
- Rosenbaum on Kimbell Museum plans to plop Piano on its front lawn (there's still hope for Frisbee players and dog walkers).
- He said he wouldn't, now he will: Broad decided to build his own museum not far from new LACMA bearing his name.
- Kamin reports on Indianapolis Museum of Art plans to acquire Saarinen's landmark Miller house.
- Edinburgh breathes a sigh of relief: its UNESCO heritage status secured (with some reservations).
- Freed/Pei's Silver Towers (and 6 others) garner NYC landmark status.
- But it's back to the drawing board for SHoP's South Street Seaport redevelopment.
- Campbell coos over Chestnut Hill Pumping Stations restoration/reuse: "The good news is that at least we've got enough sense to preserve what we have."
- Behnisch Architekten + Ayers/Saint/Gross win University of Baltimore law school.
- It's finally official (with fresh rendering): Rogers Stirk Harbour's 42-story tower atop the Port Authority Bus Terminal in Manhattan.
- Anderton in a lively conversation with Adjaye et al. re: What does having metropolitan President Obama mean for architecture and design?
- Dietsch has a lively conversation with HOK's Bill Hellmuth, who's "on top of the world."
- Call for entries: ICFF Studio; and deadline reminder: MIPIM/Architectural Review Future Project Awards 09 (due Friday!).

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Temples dedicated to the art of spending: How did the mall take over the world? ...the west needs spaces to allow a re-engagement with the chaos and life of the marketplace...Architects must be able to propose a framework in which to do this. That would be an architecture suited to a recession. I look forward to it. By Edwin Heathcote -- Libeskind; Foreign Office Architects (FOA); Foster + Partners - Financial Times (UK)

Selective Recall: Critics of the Museum of Arts and Design missed the real point of the building...If we are to encourage frugality in architecture and the reuse of materials, structures, and foundations...then we need to critique buildings for what they are: responses to a varied set of conditions, not contenders in a pictorial pantheon. By Peter Hall -- Edward Durell Stone (1964); Cloepfil/Allied Works - Metropolis Magazine

Completing the Circle: After more than 100 years of indifference and indecision, New York's most famous traffic circle is finally finished...the story has a happy ending. By Karrie Jacobs -- Edward Durell Stone (1964); Cloepfil/Allied Works; Frederick Law Olmsted/Calvert Vaux; Robert Moses; Moshe Safdie; David Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) - Metropolis Magazine

Gehry Revamps Art Gallery of Ontario, Adds Ears, Python Stairs: ...it's as if Gehry, with partner Craig Webb, anticipated the turn away from the architectural spectacle of the go-go years...has played rectangles against curves in other projects, though never with such tight discipline...to deploy explosions of sculptural bravado strategically. They detonate with unusual power. By James S. Russell [slide show] - Bloomberg News

Kimbell Museum to Construct Piano Building Beside Kahn's Masterpiece: ...has opted to court controversy..."auditorium will eventually be demolished and some of the parking lots removed so the Frisbee players and dog walkers will have an expanse of park-like lawn on which to play." I suppose this is the museum's way of compensating for taking away the parkland on its other side. By Lee Rosenbaum [links to images] - ArtsJournal

Broad Decides to Build His Own Museum: Less than a year after the Los Angeles County Museum of Art opened a \$56 million museum for contemporary art named for Eli Broad, the billionaire philanthropist...has decided to build his own museum and is considering a site just down the street. -- Marty Borko/Gensler - New York Times

Indianapolis Museum of Art plans to acquire landmark Miller house and garden in Columbus, Indiana, a landmark of mid-20th Century modernism... By Blair Kamin -- Eero Saarinen; Alexander Girard; Daniel Urban Kiley [link to images] - Chicago Tribune

Edinburgh's heritage status secured: City's ranking as a World Heritage Site is safe after fears that major developments would radically alter skyline...UNESCO officials said that while they had reservations about some details...they were overall very happy with Edinburgh's passion and commitment to heritage conservation. - Guardian (UK)

Pei's University Village Tops List of 7 Landmarks: Seven structures in Manhattan and Brooklyn were designated as landmarks... -- James Ingo Freed/I.M. Pei & Associates (1967); Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) (1963); Morris B. Sanders (1935); Brunner & Tryon (1896); D. & J. Jardine (1881); Napoleon LeBrun (1888) [images] - New York Times

Plan to Redevelop South Street Seaport Is Spurned for the Mass, Scale and Height of Its Buildings: ...rebuffed in its current form...by the Landmarks Preservation Commission...Since there was no vote, the application is still considered active, and General Growth has the chance to modify it. -- SHoP Architects - New York Times

Preserving the majesty of old works: New uses for water pumping stations will draw on their glory days: When our ancestors built infrastructure, they built it as architecture. Sometimes great architecture....Chestnut Hill Pumping Stations...The good news is that at least we've got enough sense to preserve what we have. By Robert Campbell -- Arthur Vina (1887); Graham Gund - Boston Globe

A bright new face for University of Baltimore law school: Behnisch Architekten, Ayers/Saint/Gross design \$107 million Angelos center for Charles St...."it's going to exceed everybody's expectations...in terms of sustainability." By Edward Gunts [image] - Baltimore Sun

Rogers Goes Terminal: ...new 42-story tower atop the Port Authority Bus Terminal in Midtown Manhattan...new rendering released yesterday by the PA when it made the announcement official. -- Rogers Stirk Harbour [image, links] - The Architect's Newspaper

DnA/Frances Anderton: The Metropolitan President: Barack Obama will be the first president to hail from a major metropolis in a long time. What does this mean for architecture and design? + James Bond and his relationship with Modern architecture. -- David Adjaye; Kevin Starr/University of Southern California; Krista Kline: Urban design coordinator for Mayor Villaraigosa; Christopher Mount/Pasadena Museum of California Art; Steve Rose/Guardian [links] - KCRW

HOK's Bill Hellmuth: On top of the world: As president and design chief, [he] is transforming the world's architecture one

building at a time. His approach? Sustainability, modernism — and good old-fashioned modesty. By Deborah K. Dietsch --
Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum - Washington Business Journal

Call for entries: ICFF Studio: Selected designers win a spot to display their prototypes at ICFF in New York City, May 16-19,
2009; deadline: December 15, 2008 - ICFF/International Contemporary Furniture Fair

Call for entries deadline reminder: MIPIM/Architectural Review Future Project Awards 09; deadline: November 21 - The
Architectural Review/AR (UK)



-- Zaha Hadid Architects: Neil Barrett Store, Tokyo
-- Under construction: Herzog & de Meuron: 56 Leonard Street, New York, NY

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